In a Long War Victory Favors the Spiritually Strong

Nippon Times

Japan's United 100-Million Will Vanquish the U.S. and Britain

1943 1944 Contains
1943 Feb 12, May 30, June 2, 13, 19, Aug 1, 2, Sept 3-9, 11-17, 1944 May 21-27, June 11, Sept 10-16, 24, Oct 8-13, Nov 15-22, 24, 25, 27-30

No. 15,760 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十七年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

CULTURAL PACT WITH BULGARIA SIGNED IN TOKYO

Signatures Affixed Thursday by Tani and Minister Yanco Peyeff

AIMED TO BOLSTER TIES

Amity of Bulgarians to Japan Told by Hachiya, First Nippon Envoy to Sofia

The conclusion on Thursday of an agreement of amity and cultural collaboration between Japan and Bulgaria for the purpose of strengthening their already existing mutually friendly relations was announced by the Board of Information the same afternoon.

The convention was signed in Tokyo at 4 p.m. Thursday by Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani, on behalf of Japan, and by Bulgarian Minister Yanco Peyeff, on behalf of Bulgaria, at the official residence of the Foreign Minister.

Announcement Made

The Board of Information's announcement follows:

"Having reached an accord concerning the conclusion of a convention for the purpose of strengthening the mutually friendly relations existing between them, the Governments of Japan and Bulgaria have concluded today, February 11, the Japanese-Bulgarian Convention of Amity and Cultural Collaboration, the aim of which is to deepen mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries by reaffirming their relations of amity and promoting their cultural intercourse. The Convention was signed by Mr. Masayuki Tani, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Yanco Peyeff, Bulgarian Minister to Japan, at the official residence of the Foreign Minister at 4 p.m."

The text of the Convention is as follows:

The Imperial Government of Japan and the Royal Government of Bulgaria,

Being desirous of affirming by a solemn act and of strengthening the amicable relations which happily exist between the two countries, and

Being equally animated by the desire of developing the cultural relations of the two countries and thus deepening the mutual understanding of the two peoples, have agreed upon the following provisions:

ARTICLE 1.

The two Governments hereby reaffirm the relations of amity and mutual confidence existing between the two countries.

ARTICLE 2.

The two Governments shall promote, as far as possible, the cultural relations between the two countries and shall assure their closest collaboration for this purpose.

ARTICLE 3.

The present Convention shall enter into operation from the date of its signature and shall remain in force for ten years. It shall be prolonged by tacit renewal year by year unless either of the two Governments shall have given notice to the other six months before the expiration of its intention to terminate it.

'Japan of Balkans'

Bulgaria admires Japan so much that they pride themselves on being "Japan of the Balkans," according to Teruo Hachiya, lately the first Japanese Minister to Bulgaria and at present head of the foreign affairs department of the Taiwan Government-General, who commented Thursday on the Convention for Amity and Cultural Collaboration concluded between Bulgaria and Japan.

'Father' of Agreement

One of the Japanese who received the news with particular joy was Mr. Hachiya, for he had stinted no effort in the work of promoting cultural relations between the two countries during the one year that he was accredited to the Court at Sofia. In this respect, Domei says, he may be considered the father of the cultural agreement.

Describing Bulgaria as he found it, the former Minister to Sofia, who is now in Tokyo on business, remarked:

"The Bulgarians are an East Asiatic people and they distinctly are aware of the fact. This is an astonishing phenomenon in a people living in the midst of Europeans. They have entertained the friendliest feeling toward Japan and shown the liveliest interest in things Japanese. It is surprising how well

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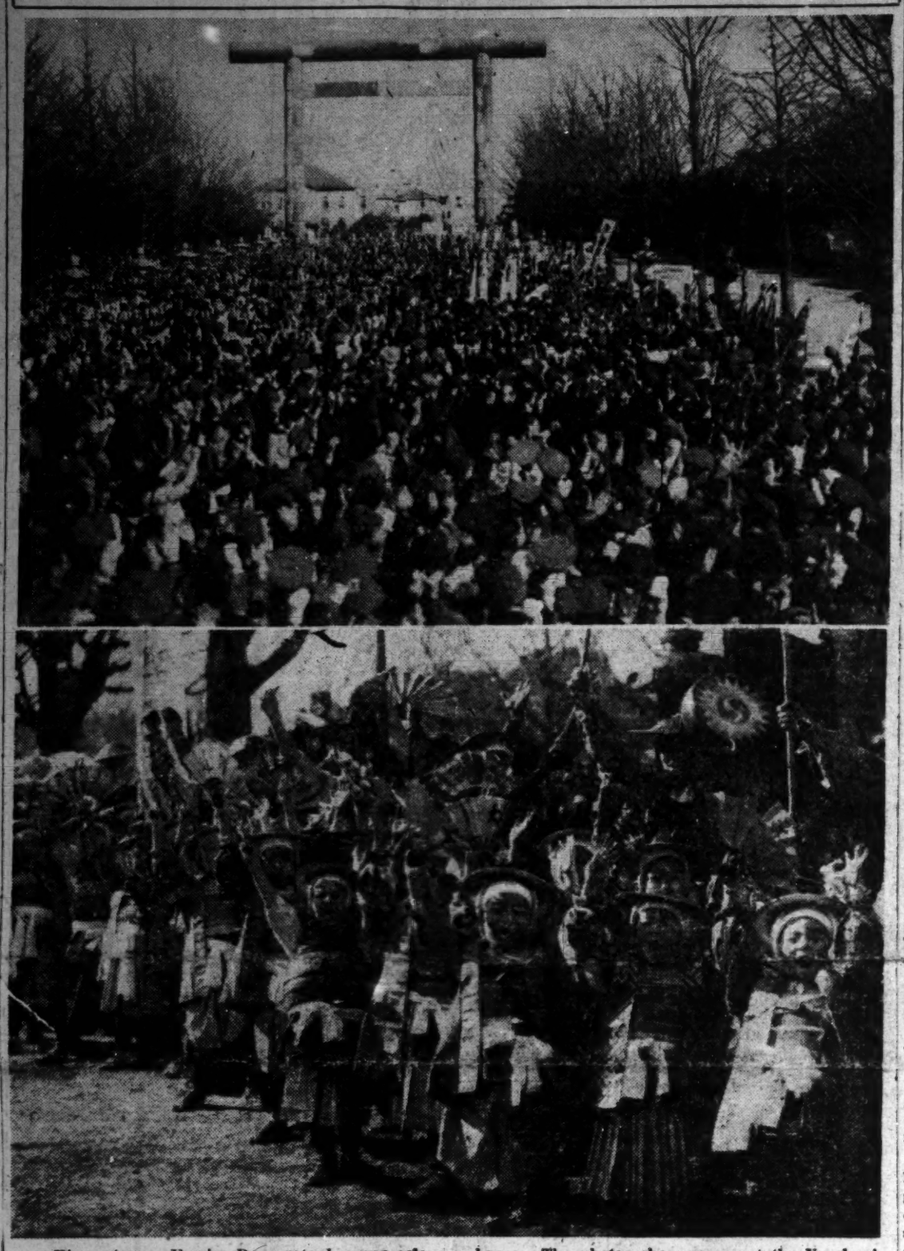
Entire Nation Celebrates Kigensetsu



Kigensetsu or Empire Day yesterday was celebrated by Japan's 100,000,000 people who took the auspicious occasion to renew their determination to prosecute the War of Greater East Asia until the United States and Britain are brought to their knees. The photos show scenes at the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo where hundreds of thousands of residents of the capital paid their homage to the nation's war dead, that of the bottom being youngsters in ancient warriors' outfits.

EMPIRE HOLDS CELEBRATIONS ON KIGENSETSU

His Majesty Worships at Imperial Sanctuary on Auspicious Occasion

MANY EVENTS STAGED

Industrial Workers Honored for Service in Ceremony at Premier's Residence

His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to worship at the Imperial Sanctuary on Thursday on the auspicious occasion of Kigensetsu, or Empire Day. Princes and Princesses of the Blood also participated in the ceremony.

Meanwhile, in the capital, numerous commemoration ceremonies were held as Japan greeted the second Kigensetsu since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

Honored by the presence of His Imperial Highness General Prince Asaka as patron, the Japan Disabled Servicemen's Association held a ceremony at the Gunjin Kaikan at Kudan from 2 p.m.

Schools and government offices throughout Japan also held ceremonies from 9 a.m.

Meanwhile, other commemoration functions likewise were staged by students as well as young men and youth's groups. One of these was the all-night march by over 600 students of Tokyo Imperial University who assembled in Chiba Prefecture Wednesday night and marched to Tokyo, reaching the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace at 6:30 a.m.

His Imperial Highness Field-Marshal Prince Kanin on Thursday graciously granted life-annuities to four men who have rendered distinguished service through social welfare undertakings. In addition, His Imperial Highness granted a sum of money to 10 other persons for outstanding work in the same field, it was learned.

At the same time, the Keifuku Kai, an Imperial Gift Foundation, granted a subsidy of ¥160,700 to 332 civilian organizations engaged in social welfare work throughout the country, it was further learned.

High honors in the form of medals were awarded for the first time to 30 workers who have been giving faithful service for the past 30 to 50 years at a ceremony held Thursday at the official residence of the Prime Minister. The function was attended by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Finance Minister Okinori Kaya and Welfare Minister Surgeon Lieutenant-General Dr. Chikahiko Koizumi.

The recipients of the medals have been selected from more than 2,000 model workmen throughout the country who were awarded service medals once before in January, and include 52 who are employed in private factories, 10 miners and 18 Government workers.

The most conspicuous among the faithful workers was Kumakichi Tanaka of Fukuoka Prefecture who is still going strong despite his advanced age of 70.

CITATIONS FOR HEROISM GIVEN 2 ARMY OFFICERS IN CENTRAL CHINA DRIVE

CITATIONS

"Sub-Lieutenant Makoto Aizawa
Attached to the Tsuneoka Unit

"In the attack upon the walled city of Chuchow in western Chekiang Province on June 6, last year, the above was ordered to command the first storming party against the southern gate of the city.

"Braving heavy fire and surmounting every obstacle, he forged his way to the wall in the van of his troops and rapidly scaled it, taking a part of the wall after daring fighting.

"The enemy counter-attacked and he was wounded by an enemy hand-grenade, but he continued to command his troops and repulsed the enemy. He was hit again in the neck and died on the wall as the operations were being expanded by his troops.

"He fully discharged his duty as commander of a storming party, thereby facilitating the way to the subsequent reduction of the walled city of Chuchow. His military services were outstandingly conspicuous.

"Wherefore, a citation is hereby issued."

July 7, 1942
Commander of Army Forces

"Sub-Lieutenant Toru Kamibayashi
Attached to the Yanase Unit

"In the Japanese attack on Chuchow on June 4, 1942, the above successfully carried out a difficult crossing of a river as a commander of a vanguard unit at Wukikang point in defiance of the swift current and the enemy cross fire.

"Penetrating into pill-boxes which were jutting out into the river, his troops immediately occupied the points and also attacked the enemy on another side, thereby facilitating the crossing of other Japanese Forces.

"Continuing a steady drive across a flooded area and in torrential rains repeating daring attacks in pitch dark, his troops captured a part of the enemy positions, but he was gallantly killed in action at a pill-box.

"His actions were marked by the most positive fulfilment of duty from start to finish and his military services were exceedingly outstanding.

"Wherefore, a citation is hereby issued."

July 7, 1942
Commander of Army Forces

Throne Hears of Feat in Chekiang-Kiangsi Campaign

ATTACKED CHUCHOW

Sub-Lieutenants Aizawa and Kamibayashi Led Men Until Gallant Deaths

Individual citations which were issued to Sub-Lieutenants Makoto Aizawa and Toru Kamibayashi by their Commander on July 7, 1942 for their gallant deeds in the Chekiang-Kiangsi campaign staged and developed in Central China last spring have reached the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, it was announced by the War Ministry Thursday.

The two young and heroic officers were killed in action.

The announcement of the War Ministry follows:

"For their meritorious military exploits in the Chekiang-Kiangsi campaign, citations were issued to Sub-Lieutenants Makoto Aizawa and Toru Kamibayashi by the army commander in the area. It is with awe and trepidation to note here that this has been brought to the notice of His Majesty the Emperor."

Led Attack on Chuchow

Sub-Lieutenant Aizawa was engaged in the attack on the walled town of Chuchow as commander of a sub-company on the foremost firing line of the left wing of the Tsuneoka Unit of the Sakai Corps. He was ordered to look into the enemy position as a scouting officer before dawn on June 6. In the face of a barrage of enemy gunfire he made a close reconnaissance of the enemy condition near the great south gate of that walled town.

His report was effective enough to lead a battalion to have close access to the southern side of that gate, where he was ordered to lead a storming party. Willingly, he received the order and built up a position necessary for the storming in accordance with the prevailing condition.

Bridging work was completed by engineers in the meantime. Toward dusk Sub-Lieutenant Aizawa carried his unit right into the ranks of the enemy in defiance of fierce gunfire. The wall was scaled by the daring soldiers under his command. Enemy soldiers were annihilated, as his unit occupied a portion of the enemy positions on the wall. An enemy counter-attack was resisted.

Sub-Lieutenant Aizawa was wounded by an enemy hand grenade in his hands and breast. But he was not flagged at all. In cooperation with a comrade unit that followed he repulsed the counter-attack and, while he was engaged in expansion of the battle situation, an enemy bullet hit him in the neck. The gallant officer thus was killed on the wall. However, his was not a death in vain, as his daring action was effective enough to pave the way for comrade forces to enlarge the operation leading to an eventual reduction of Chuchow.

Sub-Lieutenant Aizawa was a graduate of the Nagano Technical School. Before he was summoned to the colors in 1938 he was an employe of the Japan Oil Company in Niigata Prefecture. Later, he was relieved of the services and was teaching. Again, he was summoned to the colors in September, 1941. It was on June 6, 1942, that he died a gallant death. His elder brother also was killed in action in the battle of Kiukiang. His family members who now reside in Amemiya village, Hanishina-gun, Nagano Prefecture, have been deeply moved by the glorious individual citation issued to him.

Before he went to the front the last time, Sub-Lieutenant Aizawa left a short poem expressive of his absolute determination to die for the cause of his country to Kenichiro Shimizu, principal of the Matsumoto Middle School, whom he respected as his educational benefactor.

Son of Hero

Sub-Lieutenant Kamibayashi hailed from Shizuoka Prefecture. His father was the late Commander Kiyoshi Kamibayashi of the Imperial Navy, who sacrificed himself with others in the sinking of the submarine led by Commander Tsutomu Sakuma while in training in August 1913. After graduating from the

(Continued on Page 2)

1942 WAR RESULTS FOR CHINA REVEALED

Chiang Units Abandon 260,805 Dead; 124,407 Captured as War Prisoners

The number of dead abandoned by the Chungking forces in their engagements with the Japanese Forces during 1942 reached the high number of 260,805 while those taken prisoner by the Imperial Units during the same period totaled 124,407, according to an announcement of the Army Press Section of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China at 5:35 p.m. on Thursday, according to a Nanking dispatch to Domei.

The announcement follows:

"The composite war results scored by the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China in the War of Greater East Asia for 1942 follow:

"Enemy forces engaged	2,867,000
Dead bodies abandoned	260,805
War prisoners	124,407
Airplanes shot down and wrecked	*109

*Of which 16 are uncertain.

Trophies:

28 field and mountain guns; 7,179 shells for the same; 535 heavy machine guns; 753,203 bullets for the same; 2,778 light machine guns; 513,571 bullets for the same; 810 trench mortars; 42,207 shells for the same; 126,357 rifles; 10,963,016 bullets for the same; 22,201 pistols; 139,208 bullets for the same; and 712,674 hand grenades.

Japanese damage.....8,400 killed."

ARMY PLANES BLAST KEY ENEMY POINTS

Chiang's Fifth War Zone Headquarters in Laohokow Blown Up

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 10.—Extensive damage was inflicted on strategic enemy points in Lushih, Honan Province, Laohokow, Hupeh Province and Hweichow, Anhwei Province, yesterday when waves of Japanese Army warplanes launched air assaults on these places, it was learned today.

Particularly at Laohokow, where the enemy headquarters of the Fifth War Zone is located, the Japanese aces blasted enemy military installations within and outside the city thoroughly and completely.

At Hweichow, situated about 100 kilometers west of Hangchow, the Japanese Air Units rained tons of explosives on the enemy headquarters of the 23rd Division, wreaking heavy damage to important installations.

It was further disclosed that according to later reports on the air raids carried out on the same day on Liuchow, Kweilin (Kiangsi Province) and Lingling (Hunan Province), the extent of damage inflicted was found much bigger than originally reported, with the blasting of six locomotives, the setting ablaze of two additional warehouses being added to the list of damages inflicted.

At Lingling, a combined formation of Japanese fighter planes and bombers pounded military installations in the city, causing five large fires to break out. The enemy barrage from the anti-aircraft batteries was intensive and one of the raiders was damaged, but it managed to return to its base.

21-DAY FAST BEGUN BY MAHATMA GANDHI

75-Year Old Indian Leader Demands Unconditional Release: Masses Stirred

Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian National Congress Party, who has been detained at the Aga Khan Palace in Poona by the British authorities since last August, has started a 21-day fast, it was revealed by the British officials in Poona, Bombay, according to a Lisbon dispatch to Domei, quoting reports from New Delhi.

Gandhi has been interned within the Aga Khan palace for the last six months since his arrest in August of the previous year, simultaneous with the beginning of the series of vigorous anti-British demonstrations throughout India.

The veteran champion of the Indian people has started his fasting to stress the earnestness of his demand for an unconditional release, it was reported.

It was further revealed that the news of Gandhi's hunger-strike has roused deep concern for the health of India's veteran leader who has attained the ripe old age of 75 years. At the beginning of his fast, Gandhi stated, "I will take just enough fruit juice to preserve my physical endurance," to relieve his disciples from excessive anxiety.

Release Is Demanded

"I will hold a fast for three weeks," stated Gandhi in his message to Lord Linlithgow, British Viceroy and Governor-General in India. "Until the Indian Government grants me unconditional release, I will not cease my fast," he added.

In reply to Gandhi's request, the Indian Government Office stated that if Gandhi wishes to be released, the government will allow him his free-

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Fine Art Mission Completes Survey Of Cambodia Area

Domei

SAIGON, February 11.—Succeeding in taking about 600 photographs, making about 300 rubbings and some 60 sketches of the remains of the Khmer Dynasty of Cambodia, the fine art investigation mission headed by Tetsuro Sugimoto, painter, will shortly leave here for Japan. The mission consisting of 12 members, which the Higashi Honganji Temple sent to Angkor Vat, arrived at Saigon in November last year. The party stayed at Angkor Vat for nearly two months from December last year. Seven members of the mission will leave here toward the end of this month and five early in March.

DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD

Domei

PEKING, February 10.—The North China Publicity Federation, the North China Press Association, and the North China Press Supply Association held a joint meeting of directors as well as a general meeting here this morning.

After deciding upon amendments to the regulations of the North China Publicity Federation and the Press Association, as well as upon the new regulations for the Press Supply Association, the assembly elected new officials for their organizations. At 7 p.m., the conferees were invited to a banquet sponsored by the chief of the Japanese Army Press service in North China.

Enemy Plane Losses Given

The Anglo-American forces have suffered the loss of 703 planes on the North African front, since their occupation of French territories last November, it was reported by the German military authorities, according to a Berlin Domei dispatch.

EAST ASIA BUDDHIST CONFERENCE SLATED

Youths Convention Will Be Held Here—1,000 Delegates Are Coming

A convention of Greater East Asia Buddhist youths will be held in Tokyo during May to discuss problems relating to the cultural construction of East Asia and 14 other items.

More than 1,000 delegates throughout Japan Proper, Manchoukuo, China, Mengchiang, Thailand, French Indo China, Burma, India, Malai, Java, and the Philippines are expected to attend the conference. The conference will be divided into four sections to facilitate discussion on the various topics on the agenda.

Besides the formation of the Greater East Asia Buddhist Youths Association, the convention also plans to carry out three other undertakings for which vigorous campaigns will be launched. Formal invitations will be sent to the delegate through the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry in the near future.

The convention will be sponsored by the League of Buddhist Young Men's Associations of Japan, the War, Navy, Greater East Asiatic Affairs and Education Ministries, Board of Information, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, Tokyo Prefecture and Tokyo City.

Plans have been made for the delegates to visit the Ise Grand Shrines, as well as Kyoto, Nara and other districts after the conference is over.

England Admits Raid

The German air force bombed the cities and railways along the eastern coast of England on February 9, it was announced by the British Air Ministry on the following day, according to a Stockholm dispatch to Domei.

BRITISH PREMIER REFUSES TO TALK ON RECENT TRIP

Tells House of Commons He Is Not Worried About Food Shortage

Prime Minister Winston Churchill tersely responded to the interpellations at the session of the House of Commons on Tuesday, but withheld all reports as to the general war situations and also as to his recent diplomatic sojourns, according to Stockholm dispatch to Domei in relaying a wire from London.

In reply to the question on the plans for the establishmemt of a Supreme Council for the anti-Axis nations, Churchill declared that he will make an announcement in conjunction with the war situations to be made shortly.

Upon being questioned on countermeasures taken against Axis submarines and on the critical food problem, Churchill optimistically replied, "Under the present conditions, deliberations on the problem of merchantmen must be withheld. The British people have entirely consumed the foodstuffs that were stocked before the outbreak of the war, but I am not particularly worried; I think we will be able to manage somehow."

PEKING SCHOOL OPENING

Will Admit 120 for Engineering Courses

Domei

PEKING, February 10.—The North China Higher Technical School, which was established by the Oriental Unicultural Society, will admit 120 students in metallurgy, machinery and electrical engineering courses when it opens in April.

Entrance examinations are to be held on March 25 and 26 at Peking, Tokyo, Osaka and Fukuoka. Students are classified into three types: those receiving financial aids from the prefectures through selective process; those receiving public financial aid from prefectural educational societies, and those who will meet the expenses out of their own funds.

Javanese Become Officials

Domei

DJAKARTA, February 10.—In line with the policy of employing native officials the Japanese Military Administration here today announced that some 100 new Javanese officials will be taken into the administration. It was revealed that the candidates who have passed the required examination will be assigned to various posts in the administration after training.

GERMAN DEFENSES CRUSH RED DRIVES

Effectiveness of Elastic Defense Causes Enormous Consumption of Soviet Power

Special to the Nippon Times

BERLIN, February 9.—Although throwing wave upon wave of troops upon the German Forces in attempts to break through the German barrier, the Soviets continue to fail to do so, and due to the effectiveness of the German Forces' elastic defense and the firmly held and deeply echeloned defensive position of the German Forces and their allies, Soviet assaults merely result in a mounting and appalling list of Red casualties, it is revealed here today.

Most of the active fighting has shifted to the southern wing of the Eastern Front, and all along the scene of action the Soviets are ineffectively using up and wearing away whatever power they have left. The enormous consumption of manpower and materials has forced the Soviet High Command to limit to a great extent its strategical aims.

The main weight of the fighting has been shifted to the southern wing of the Eastern Front. In the mountain positions of the Western Caucasus, the violent Soviet attacks were repulsed in embittered fighting. Here the German and Rumanian mountain troops threw back the Soviets who attacked four times in succession with numerically far superior forces. The German and Rumanian soldiers in a counter-thrust took several hundred prisoners and seized 16 heavy grenade-throwers. The Soviets in the fore-field of a single German unit left more than 1,500 dead.

Near the mouth of the Don, fast German units succeeded in repelling several Soviet attempts at encirclement. The Soviet troops that managed to break into a certain valley thus gaining a temporary local success, were cut off in an energetic counter-thrust into the enemy's flank. Among the encircled Soviets who were wiped out completely there was a major group of Soviet sappers wearing the German uniform. These men had orders to blow up bridges in the rear of the German troops.

The German bombers and Stukas in incessant attacks took a greatly effective part in the ground fighting between the Black Sea and the Don estuary. They moreover bombed and machine-gunned with telling effect the large Soviet troop deployments and enemy transports close behind the front.

On the Donetz front the Soviets repeated their attempts to cross over to the west bank of the river. At dawn, minor Soviet forces had succeeded in occupying a village on the western bank of the Donetz. A German counter-thrust forced the Soviets to make a hurried retreat. Only remnants of the enemy forces succeeded in reaching the eastern bank of the river. On the left wing of this sector the Soviets continued their mass attacks against the German lines of resistance. All enemy attacks were repulsed with very high losses inflicted in men and material on the attackers.

The German defenders in counter-thrusts occupied an uninhabited place, stubbornly defended by the Soviets. At the upper Donetz the Soviets went all out in their effort to break through the German defense front. Here, too, an enemy attempt at a large-scale encirclement was frustrated with extremely high losses for the attackers. In these embittered fights the German mobile troops, panzers and motorized artillery have particularly excelled themselves. In the Oskol sector the energetic German attack resulted in the occupation of several important road junctions. This German success is significant for the future development of the fighting in this area.

The heaviest fighting on the whole of the Eastern Front took place in the area of Kursk. Here the Soviets by concentrating extremely strong forces regardless of their terrible losses tried to enforce a success at all costs. In a heavy snowstrom the Soviets throughout the day drove wave upon wave against the German lines. After 15 waves had broken down in the concentric fire of the German defensive weapons and after embittered fighting for every inch of ground the Soviets in a fresh mass attack succeeded in reaching the outskirts of the northern suburbs. In the evening hours the Germans launched a counter-thrust tearing from the Soviets most of the ground which they had gained in the struggles of the day. The German counter-attacks were resumed early his morning. The enemy attempt at outflanking the German defenders and to force them thus to retreat was frustrated with fresh heavy casualties inflicted upon the enemy.

Action in Shansi Winter

In any weather, under all conditions, action against the enemy goes on. Though bitter freezing winds blast through Shansi, the men of the Imperial Forces continue their work in wiping out hostile elements. Top photo shows a Japanese soldier quenching his thirst by sucking on ice formed on a tree. Lower photo shows a Japanese column thundering through the bitter weather.

(Passed by the War Ministry)

Odyssey of Pro-Japanese Chinese Girl and Kin Is Revealed in a Letter to Japanese Friend

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

From Kuala Lumpur, there recently came to Tokyo a letter from a young Chinese woman, Hu Chien-huai, to her Japanese friend, a missive which was to bring to light a strange tale of a sister and her brothers, whose pro-Japanese efforts have been exerted toward the resurrection of a new Asia.

In 1927, Shigeko Takenaka, Asahi's woman reporter was dispatched to Canton, and there made the acquaintance of the Hu family. The father, Hu Tien-min, at one time reporter of the Lainan Shimpo and the Toho Tsushinsha, was then editor of an independent Chinese newspaper in Canton, in which capacity he was actively urging the reconstruction of a greater Asia.

A warm friendship had sprung up between the reporter and Hu Chien-huai, who was then but 17 years old. When circumstances necessitated Shigeko's return to Japan, the two continued their friendship through three years' correspondence. Suddenly, however, all tidings were cut abruptly off, for the father fell victim to the atrocities of anti-Japanese factions.

With her brothers, Hu Kuo-hua and Hu Hsing-hua, Hu Chien-huai fled to Hongkong, where she sought employment at a Christian orphanage. Under the cold and reserved reception of the British superintendent, however, she was soon forced to give up her position.

Returning once again to Canton, where confusion still reigned, Hu Chien-huai and her younger brothers were at their wits' end, when they were assisted by the kindly Corps Commander Takaji Wachi, valorous commander of the Lotienchin offensive in the Battle of Shanghai and at present military administrator in the Philippines. Through Commander Wachi's efforts, the elder brother, the Kuo-hua was sent to Manchoukuo, where he was sheltered from the danger of attacks from anti-Japanese factions. Two years later, the two brothers were sent to Japan, where they attended school from Commander Wachi's home.

Brought up under the warmhearted care of Commander Wachi, Hu Kuo-hua is at present back in Canton, doing his utmost as a member of the pacification corps, carrying on the long cherished dreams of his father. The younger brother, Hu Hsing-hua, is now attending the Kobe Higher Technical School. The Hu family, father and son for two generations, is striving for the furtherance of friendship between Japan and China.

In the meantime, Hu Chien-huai had fled from Canton to Malai, and just before the outbreak of the war was working as assistant superintendent of an English school in Kuala Lumpur. Since last autumn she has been earnestly studying Japanese at one of the schools established by the military administration.

Hu Chien-huai's letter sent to a Japanese friend whom she could not forget, has revealed the strange story of the Hu sister and brothers, who, in the various parts of the Greater East Asia, are valiantly carrying on the banner of an Asia for Asiatics bequeathed them by their gallant father.

BRITISH CONVOY ATTACKED BY U-BOATS OFF GIBRALTAR

A sudden engagement between German U-boats and a British convoy was started in the Strait of Gibraltar on the night of February 8, according to a Lisbon dispatch to Domei on Wednesday in relaying a telegram from Tangier.

The deafening explosions of torpedoes and depth bombs discharged by the combatants broke the peaceful slumber of the residents in the adjacent areas, the dispatch revealed.

Early on the morning following the engagement, a British tugboat was seen towing a crippled British transport in its desperate attempt to reach the port of Gibraltar, but upon realizing the futility of her labor, the tugboat voluntarily gunned the hapless vessel, and sent her down to the murky depths of the Strait, it was related by an eye-witness.

Outside of the loss of the aforementioned transport that was laden with automobiles, no details of the casualties have been announced.

CHINA-MANCHOU TIES FURTHER BOLSTERED

Naming of Chen as New Envoy To Hsinking to Better Economic Relation

Domei

NANKING, February 9.—Commenting on the appointment of Chen Chi-cheng as the new Chinese Ambassador to Manchoukuo today, political observers here stated that it signifies the positive diplomatic move of the National Government toward Manchoukuo in anticipation of strengthening the economic relations between China and Manchoukuo, it was revealed here today.

By appointing the new Ambassador, the political observers added that the National Government will not only strengthen its cooperation with Manchoukuo in political and cultural fields but also take a step forward to accelerate material exchange between the two nations.

Recommending the new Ambassador as a man of learning and experience, these quarters said that Ambassador Chen carried weight in educational as well as financial circles of China, adding that he was also an author of few books.

Continuing, the observers stated that the new Ambassador, while holding the chairmanship of the Chinese Oversea Residents' Affairs Committee and Foodstuff Supervision Committee and the Border Affairs Committee, skilfully performed his duties.

Ambassador Chen, born in 1895, hails from Kianting, Kiangsu Province. After graduating from Lungmoon College, he has held the posts of the President of the Chung Kuo Kung Hsueh University in Shanghai and the auditorship of the Silk Merchants Bank of Shanghai.

With the return to Nanking of the National Government in 1940, Ambassador Chen was appointed the chairman of the Chinese Oversea Residents' Affairs Committee and was later made the chairman of the Foodstuff Supervision Committee. In 1942 he was selected the chairman of the Border Affairs Committee.

Cultural Pact With Bulgaria Signed in Tokyo

(Continued From Page 1)

they have studied the Russo-Japanese War, for instance, and even take pride in the fact that Bulgaria is 'Japan of the Balkans.'

"They compare themselves to the Japanese in that although their country is small in area the people are hardy and strong, readily inspired by the call of arms, progressive and made for a great destiny.

People Firmly United

"The population is only 7,000,000 but they are firmly united by racial ties. The bulk of the people is farmers. Even in the famous Balkan Wars they were not easily defeated. When I was there, the study of things Japanese sharply rose, at first probably owing to the fact that the Japanese Legation was established for the first time there and they were curious. They knew how powerful Japan was in arms but did not know much about the cultural side of our country. By means of a book I introduced that phase of Japan to the Bulgarians, especially Japanese music. They began to take real interest in Japanese culture.

"An international sample fair was held just at the time in Plovdiv, which is there just like Osaka is to Japan, and Mitsui Shoji exhibited Japanese products for the first time. To my delight, Japanese articles dominated all others and they were the center of interest. Mr. Tomejiro Okubo, mayor of Tokyo at the time, sent a gift of cherry saplings to the Mayor of Sofia and they were planted in the Japanese garden in Boris Park. I have heard that those trees have borne beautiful blossoms.

"On another occasion, I presented the Sofia Broadcasting Station with Japanese records and they were very well received. I then distributed all over Bulgaria records of Japanese songs translated into Bulgarian. I was surprised to hear, while travelling in the country, one of those records being played in a farm house.

Students Association

"Among students, too, a Japan-Bulgaria Students' Association was organized for the study of Japanese life and culture. It was such efforts that have borne the present fruit in the hands of Minister Akira Yamaji.

"There are also many anthropological similarities between Bulgarians and us. They are physiognomically similar to us and they eat plenty of rice and fish. Bulgaria was defeated in the last European War and was forced by the United States and Britain to drink the bitter draught. It had been struggling to free itself from the yoke of the League of Nations to contribute the new order in Europe. Also on account of industrial and agricultural relations it was closely linked with Germany.

"Although there are many Slav elements among them and the language is akin to Russian, they are utterly opposed to Communism. In this respect they are also politically destined to throw in their lot with Germany. It is not by accident, therefore, that they have become so friendly toward us.

"In the cultural field, their music is extremely beautiful, while their public and agrarian institutions in the rural areas are worthy of study by us."

Prince Teh Pledges Support to Nippon In Building E. Asia

Domei

KALGAN, February 10.—Prince Teh, Chairman of the Federated Autonomous Government of Mongolia, who was a recipient of an Imperial gift of a set of silver cups from His Majesty the Emperor of Japan for meritorious services rendered during the China Affair, has reiterated on behalf of his 5,000,000 compatriots that the people of Mengchiang are prepared to give their all in cooperating with Japan for the prosecution of this sacred war, it is learned today. Prince Teh expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the honor bestowed upon him by the Japanese Imperial Household and declared that this is none other than the result of all-out cooperation of his countrymen rendered to the Imperial Forces in the construction of the Greater East Asiatic bloc.

21-Day Fast Begun By Mahatma Gandhi

(Continued From Page 1)

dom during the period of his fast, but they will not be responsible for his health which will be endangered by the physical strain of the fast.

The Indian government further commented that they plan to consult Gandhi's attending physicians and will allow him to meet certain privileged friends. The authorities concluded by saying, "It is deeply regrettable that Gandhi has taken such a step."

Gandhi's "Fast Unto Death" has caused a sensation in India, according to another Lisbon dispatch to Domei. The fast comes at a time when Indian political circles face a deadlock following the failure of the former Premier of Madras Province to effect a rapprochement between the Moslems and Hindus, and the growing foodstuff shortage threatens the livelihood of the Indian people. According to an announcement of the British Indian Government, letters were exchanged between Mr. Gandhi and Viceroy Linlithgow before the fast began. In his letter, Mr. Gandhi categorically denied the British Indian Government's viewpoint that murders, train wrecks, demonstrations and many other undesirable incidents are caused through instigation of the Indian Congress Party and pointed out that the misrule of the British Indian Government and the London Government is responsible for all this. Lord Linlithgow sent an immediate answer to Mr. Gandhi, asserting that Gandhi has no authentic reason for holding his fast.

Linlithgow's idea is to shirk the responsibility of a troublesome situation resulting from the fast and to place it on the shoulders of Mr. Gandhi himself. Moreover, Linlithgow is declaring that the policy already fixed will not be changed at all by the fast. In his letter addressed to Linlithgow, Gandhi said.

Independence Is Aim

"I do not hope to die of starvation from the fast. I am hoping to hold out until India for the Indians in a true sense is realized after going through this test. And I also am hoping that the British Indian Government will meet the present situation appropriately and that my fast is stopped earlier than expected through God's Will."

Mr. Gandhi's fast has made a very profound impression on the Indian people in general, as he has taken up this severe ordeal at the advanced age of 75 for the salvation of India. When the news was spread, Bombay and other important cities held a 29-hour holiday out of respect to Gandhi's fast.

India is entering a busy political season, as the Indian Central Legislative Parliament started its deliberation on the yearly bill and the All India Muslim League announced the holding of its annual meeting on February 7. No details of the domestic situation of India have been made known thus far, except what the radio broadcasts from New Delhi and cables of American and British newspaper correspondents reveal, and it is difficult to grasp the real situation in India at present.

The London Times in its issue of February 6 carried the following cable from its New Delhi correspondent:

"All efforts of the Moslems and Hindus to effect a compromise and cooperate to organize a national government have been exhausted and each side wants to fix the responsibility for the matter upon the other. The Indian political circles are facing a stalemate. All Indian newspapers are demanding that the British transfer the political power to the Indians and leave India immediately, no matter how the Moslem-Hindu situation develops. However, the Moslems are demanding "pakistan" of India as ever before. To make a long story short, the Hindus will not be able to do anything unless Gandhi moves."

PHILIPPINE CONVICTS GRANTED AMNESTY

Generous Decree Issued on Kigensetsu by Japanese Army Commander

Domei

MANILA, February 10.—On the auspicious day of Kigensetsu or Japanese Empire Day tomorrow the Supreme Japanese Army Commander in the Philippines will issue a decree concerning mitigation and remission of sentences under martial law imposed on Filipinos during the past one year.

Concerning the decree, the Japanese authorities today issued the following verbal statement:

"The Highest Japanese Army Commander in the Philippines out of his deep generosity to condemn the offense and not its perpetrator has decided to bestow benevolence to those Filipinos who were sentenced during the past one year for various offenses by specially issuing a decree of mitigation and remission.

"The decree commutes the sentences of capital punishment to 15 years imprisonment; life imprisonment to 10 years imprisonment; all other sentences commuted by two-thirds of the terms.

"In addition, aged prisoners and those who are really repentent of their past conduct will be freed on Kigensetsu.

"In the light of the meaning of the object of the War of Greater East Asia, it is gratifying that the present decree for mitigation and remission has been promulgated on the occasion of Kigensetsu by the Japanese Empire only after one year of the capture of the Philippines.

"It is hoped that those who receive the present special favor will not take for granted the Japanese magnanimity. It is hoped that all Filipinos will proceed toward the reconstruction of the new Philippines by fully recognizing the present situation.

"By the decree 50 men will be freed, while two persons will have their sentences of capital punishment commuted."

British Lose Submarine

Domei

LISBON, February 10.—The British Admiralty announced today that the submarine P-48 has not returned to its base and must be considered as lost, a dispatch from London reported.

Penang Citizens Plan Week of Festivities For New-Born Malai

Domei

PENANG, February 11.—Since February 15 is the first anniversary of Japan's victory at Singapore and the birth of a new Malai, Penang State authorities will celebrate the next seven days as "Week Commemorating New-Born Malai," it was announced today. In the open space in front of the broadcasting station, Kigensetsu, Japan's Empire Day, was observed today by officials and the general public. Later, a physical training meet was held jointly under military and civilian auspices. During the week, there will be parades of local inhabitants through the city streets. Various colorful festivities and performances are included in the commemoration program.

Citations for Heroism Granted Army Officers

(Continued from Page 1)

partment of Agriculture of Tokyo Imperial University in 1938, he served in the Finance Ministry Monopoly Bureau. In November, 1941, he was appointed sub-lieutenant and, when the Chekiang-Kiangsi campaign was started, he took the field as commander of a sub-company.

Mrs. Haru Kamibayashi, 55, was serene when she learned the gallant death of her eldest son and felt greatly honored when she heard that an individual citation had been issued to her son for his gallant deed. She told a press reporter that she submitted this honorable news to the soul of her husband, who also died for the cause of the country. To the soul of her husband, she said: "My husband. Please extol Toru. He has achieved a brilliant exploit none inferior to yours and received honors of an individual citation. Inattentive as I am, however, I have brought up your son and my son to become a worthy soldier. In spite of my inexperience, I have offered my son to the State, who sought the supreme place of death. Thank you."

French Flax for Belgium

PARIS.—Owing to the fact that the area in France for the cultivation of flax is to be considerably increased in 1943, the capacity of the French flax-processing industry is insufficient to meet the demands of increased flax production and 50 per cent of the product will be processed by the highly developed Belgian industry.

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CHINA STRENGTHENS STRUCTURE OF WAR

All Organs Put on Solid Wartime Basis to Cooperate With Japan

Domei

NANKING, February 9.—In only a month since its participation in the War of Greater East Asia, the National Government of China has completed putting its organs on a sound wartime footing so that today all governmental machinery is rolling smoothly.

In order to form an important supply source, the National Government is emphasizing the preservation of peace and order, increased production as well to enlarge the scope of the national movement.

Government officials as well as civilians, fully realizing the heavy responsibility on their shoulders since China's entry into the war, have renewed their determination to fight together with Japan until final victory is won. Under wartime conditions, every Government official is working efficiently and smoothly.

The people, expressing the mounting enthusiasm to support the Government in its war effort, and holding mass meetings in different districts, pledging to do their share until the United States and Britain are forced to their knees.

In addition, there has been repeated appeals from civilian circles lately urging the Government to boost wartime production to its maximum level by further regulating everyday living.

Meanwhile, influential Shanghai financiers have sent representatives to Nanking in order to confer with the Government in mapping out the necessary wartime economics policy.

Thus, it is pointed out, both the Government and the populace are presenting a united front to prosecute the War of Greater East Asia to its successful end.

Wang Perceives Victory

C.P.S.

NANKING, February 10.—"With victory in the War of Greater East Asia virtually assured, it rests with China to fulfil her duties as a participant in the War," declared President Wang Ching-wei in a speech recently delivered before the Fifth Plenary Session of the Central Executive and Supervisory Committees of the Kuomingtang.

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A Publication of
THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN
Osaka Building, Uchisaiwaicho, Tokyo
Phone: Ginza (57) 5461

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SMOOTH ABSORPTION OF BONDS OBSERVED

Seen in Satisfactory State of Deposits With Banks in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya

Last week's bank accounts for Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya show that the absorption of national and public bonds is going on smoothly, reflecting the strong resolution of the economic circles throughout the country to work in close cooperation with the Government in the national campaign to save ¥23,000,000,000 by the end of the current fiscal year, reports the Sangyo Keizai.

According to the weekly report just published by the Bill Clearing House of Tokyo, the total amount of deposits with all banks of Tokyo at the end of last week was ¥14,252,000,000, showing the healthy course Japan's economic world is treading now, while the total amount of loans extended by these banks was ¥10,724,000,000 showing a decrease of ¥15,000,000 as compared with the previous week. Details are given in the table to follow:

Tokyo Bank Account for the Week Ending February 6
(Unit: ¥1,000)

Items	Amount
Current account deposit	1,541,617
Special current account deposit	2,082,925
Deposit at call	2,037,371
Fixed deposit	5,610,567
Others	971,637
Ordinary deposit and deferred account fixed deposits	1,503,815
Fixed savings	504,795
Total	14,252,751

Osaka Also Satisfactory

Meanwhile, the bank accounts of Osaka also show a satisfactory result as a whole, the total amount of deposits at the end of last week being ¥7,747,605,000, practically no change as compared with the previous week. The loans extended by these banks during last week was ¥5,005,956,000, which is larger by ¥47,255,000 than the amount at the end of the preceding week. The increase was due to the active investments made in new enterprises by various companies.

The negotiable papers owned by all Osaka banks were valued at ¥5,168,837,000 being an increase of ¥13,629,000. This is ample evidence of the active absorption of national and public bonds. Details are given in the table to follow:

Osaka Bank Account for the Week Ending February 6
(Unit: ¥1,000)

Items	Amount
Current account deposit	664,402
Special current account deposit	915,804
Deposit at call	577,794
Fixed depost	3,999,415
Others	76,124
Ordinary deposit and deferred account fixed deposit	1,139,766
Fixed savings	3,830,300
Total	7,747,605

The bank accounts of Nagoya for last week showed no change at all. The total amount of deposits with all Nagoya banks was ¥1,948,000,000 exactly the same figure as at the end of the preceding week. There was a decrease of ¥14,000,000 in the total amount of fixed deposits, while the total amount of other deposits showed an increase of the same amount as compared with the preceding week, just covering the decrease in the current account deposit. Meanwhile, the total amount of loans extended by these banks during the week ending February 6 was ¥841,000,000, showing an increase of ¥15,000,000 in comparison with the preceding week.

SPECIE BANK PUBLISHES FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Quotations Prevailing From Jan. 25 to Jan. 30 Given in Latest Bulletin

The Yokohama Specie Bank published in its weekly bulletin dated February 5 the following rates of exchange prevailing from January 25 to 30 inclusive:

French Indo-China (per 100 Piastres)	
T/T	¥ 97.60
Sight	96.85
30 d/s	96.35
60 "	96.10
90 "	95.60
Commission	0.50
Thailand (per 100 Bahts)	
T/T	¥100.00
Commission	1.00
Germany (per 100 Reichsmarks)	
T/T	¥170.50
Commission	1.10
Italy (per 100 Lire)	
T/T	¥ 22.35
Commission	0.25
France (per 100 Francs)	
T/T	¥ 9.30
Commission	1.10
Switzerland (per 100 Francs)	
T/T	¥ 98.90
Commission	0.85
Sweden (per 100 Kronors)	
T/T	¥101.50
Commission	1.00
Portugal (per 100 Escudos)	
T/T	¥ 17.30
Commission	0.25
Argentina (per 100 Pesos)	
T/T	¥101.80
Commission	0.77

Burmese "Cranes" at Work

Women of the "Long Neck" tribe at work in the rice field of a village in the Shan States, Burma. A Japanese newsman asked a Burmese policeman who was guiding him round the place: "Don't they find working in that elaborate garb rather awkward?" Back came the answer: "Do they make rice in Japan, too?"

TO TRAIN EXPERTS IN FARMING, MINING

Two Academies to Prepare Students for Development of Resources in S. Regions

With the assistance of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry, two private academies have started the training of mining and farming experts to engage in the development of mineral and agricultural resources in the southern regions with a view to speeding up thereby the economic construction of Greater East Asia, says the Nippon Sangyo.

The academy responsible for the training of the mining experts is the Southern Region Mining Industry Academy, and the institution is now inviting applicants for admission, the following qualifications being required:

1. The applicants must be youths below the age of 20 and must have finished or expecting to finish by March next, the fourth year course of a middle school and must be in excellent health.
2. The number of students to be admitted this year is 100.
3. The period of training is one year, including the last three months to be allotted for the acquisition of practical experience at various mines in the southern regions.
4. Training expenses, including the boarding charges, are to be borne by the academy.
5. The graduates from the academy are to be appointed to various mines in the southern regions through the recommendation of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry.
6. The applicants for admission are required to apply by February 25 to the office of the academy in the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry.

Farming Academy

Meanwhile, the institution responsible for the training of farming experts is called the Southern Development Training Academy which is now inviting applicants for admission, the qualifications stipulated being as follow:

1. The qualification required of the applicants: The applicants must be healthy young men under 25 years of age who are either graduates from an agricultural school, or who have finished an agricultural course of similar grade.
2. The number of applicants to be admitted this year is 100.
3. The period of training is 6 months.
4. The location of the academy is on Mt. Ashitaka in a suburb of Numazu City, Shizuoka Prefecture.
5. The training expenses are to be borne by the academy.
6. The graduates from the academy are to be appointed to important posts at different farms and plantations in the southern regions through the recommendation of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry.
7. Those desirous of entering the Academy are required to apply for details to the office of the academy in the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry by February 25.

It is expected that the activities of the graduates from those academies will greatly facilitate the economic construction of the southern regions which is essential for the expansion of Japan's fighting strength.

Ministry to Regulate Exercise of Powers By Control Associations

The Commerce and Industry Ministry itself will undertake the co-ordination and adjustments necessary in the exercise of the powers granted the various key industrial control associations, Commerce and Industry Minister Nobusuke Kishi testified in the fifth subcommittee of the House of Representatives Budget Committee Wednesday. Replying to an interpellation of Representative Hidekichi Tamura, Mr. Kishi said that wide administrative powers had been transferred to the various key industrial control associations in order that they may function at the maximum efficiency but since the Key Industry Cooperation Council, instituted for the purpose of co-ordinating and adjusting relations between the associations, could not possibly exercise the authority necessary to prevent sectionalism among the control bodies the Commerce and Industry Ministry would itself undertake the crosswise controls required as against the lengthwise controls assigned to the associations.

TO APPOINT COUNCIL ON SOUTH RESOURCES

Commerce, Industry Ministry Decides to Provide Deliberative Machinery

In order to speed up the expansion of Japan's fighting strength through the development of all the natural resources of the southern regions, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided on the establishment of a Council for the Utilization of the Mineral and Industrial Resources of Greater East Asia in collaboration with scholars and business men. The organization is expected to conduct a careful study of various mineral and other resources of the southern regions on the following lines:

1. Tin.
2. Magnesite and its ingredients.
3. Bauxite, magnesite, and other minerals containing aluminum.
4. Minerals usable in manufacturing fire-proof materials.
5. Coal.
6. Petroleum.
7. Rubber.
8. Oils and fats.
9. Sugar and starches.
10. Fibers, obtainable in the southern regions.

Divided into Sections

The council will have one special section for the study of each item stated above, the section being placed under the guidance and supervision of a specialist to be selected by the Council. The establishment of the council in addition to the Science and Technique Deliberative Council recently established will complete Japan's position of war of production.

In response to the decision made by the Commerce and Industry Ministry to establish the council, the leading industrial companies of Japan Proper are expressing deep satisfaction, and many of them are already approaching the Commerce and Industry Ministry for further particulars concerning the tasks to be undertaken by the new organization.

HEMP QUOTAS DUE FOR INDUSTRIALISTS

Control Body Enforces Rules to Ensure Smooth Supplies of Fiber Products

With a view to ensuring smooth supplies of fiber products for various parties concerned, the Hemp Control Association enforced the following rules under date of February 10, reports the Sangyo Keizai:

(1) The Hemp Control Association (hereinafter referred to as the Association) shall fix quotas and shall issue tickets of hemp products, to be used by the member industrialist of the Association (including those belonging to any body of the members of the Association) and the industrialists appointed by the Ministry concerned (except where hemp products are to be used for executing military requisitions).

(2) Quotas of hemp products shall be fixed on a standard basis with reference to the total quantity of quotas approved by the Commerce and Industry Minister (or the total quantity of classified quotas in case of quotas to be allotted according to classified uses), it being understood, however, that the chairman of the Association shall occasionally fix quotas irrespective of the said standard basis for quota fixing, and that the Chairman shall work out a method for fixing quotas of hemp products with reference to the working capacities of the industrialists concerned and other relevant data.

(3) Quotas of hemp products shall be quarterly fixed in case where they are to be used according to their classified descriptions except where unavoidably circumstanced.

(4) The Association shall collect controlling fees from the industrialists according to a tariff.

(5) Quota certificates shall be issued according to periods of quota assessments and to classified descriptions of hemp products.

(6) Quota certificates shall hold good for three months following the date of issue, except where the validity of these certificates can be prolonged pending approval of the Commerce and Industry Minister.

(7) Any industrialist concerned shall notify the Association of his failure to take delivery of goods within a specified period, it being necessary for him to send in a relevant notice, accompanied by a certificate within the specified number of days, so that he may be qualified to claim a renewed quota certificate for the following period.

MERGER TO BE EFFECTED

Toa and Japan Hemp Industry Companies to Be Amalgamated

The Toa Hemp Industry Company, in accordance with its decision to annex the Japan Hemp Industry Company (capitalized at ¥3,000,000), is scheduled to hold an extraordinary general meeting of its shareholders at the Tokyo Electric Club on February 26.

The merger of the Japan Hemp Industry Company into the Toa Hemp Company will be carried out on equal terms. Due to the merger of the Japan Hemp Company, the capital of Toa Hemp will reach ¥31,300,000. The latter company is considering the merger to it of the Nankai Spinning Company (capitalised at ¥1,345,000) following the merger of the Japan Hemp Industry Company, says the Nippon Sangyo.

HISTORY OF BANKING IN P.I. IS REVIEWED

First Modern Bank on Islands Was Banco Espanol Filipino Established in 1852

A good many European and American operated banks existed in the Philippines prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, in addition to those run purely on Filipino capital. These European and American banks used their capitals solely for selfish motives, ruthlessly exploiting the natural resources of the islands at the expense of the Filipinos. But, since the coming of the Philippines under the healthy control of the Japanese Military Administration, the table has been turned, and now, the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Bank of Taiwan are speeding ahead with the financial stabilization of the masses on the entire archipelago.

Given below is a short history of the banking business in the Philippines and banking conditions existing there prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, as told by an article in a recent number of the Bulletin of the Mitsubishi Economic Research Institute.

The article says in effect:

"During the years the Philippines was owned and controlled by Spain, economic conditions on the islands remained in a very backward stage of development, and it is no wonder that there should have been no modern system of banking there. Thus, monetary transactions were practically controlled by local usurers. Meanwhile financing guilds known as Obra Pias were introduced by Catholic priests, who ran these guilds from a charitable point of view for the purpose of offering low-interest loans to impecunious individuals. Although these institutions were a great help to the poor, they did not facilitate the development of local industries.

Mission Frustrated

"However, the religious mission of the Catholic priests was completely frustrated by local usurers due to the fact that the latter started raising funds from the Obra Pias to enrich their own purses and engaged in lending money to the people at exorbitant rates of interest.

"In proportion to a considerable increase in the volume of foreign trade between the Philippines and Spain in the last stage of Spanish rule over these islands following the opening of the Suez Canal, tradesmen in the Philippines came to feel the need for a bank on a modern system, and in 1852 they established the Banco Espanol Filipino. This bank was capitalized at 400,000 pesos, half this sum being invested in by the Obra Pias.

"Subsequenlty, there developed a significant foreign trade between the Philippines and Britain and in course of time the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China set up a branch office in the Philippines, and close on its heel were established the branch offices of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and a number of other banks, numbering about 10 in all. Here it is worthy of notice that Japanese living in Manila built a San Misaka Bank in 1906, although this was forced to close its doors in a year or so on account of the interference by the Financial Bureau of the then Philippines Administration.

18 Banks in All

"Prior to the War of Greater East Asia, there were altogether 18 banks in the Philippines, including three chartered banks and six foreign banks. Yet there was nothing like a central bank to control the entire body of banking organizations in the Philippines. It is to be recalled that the Reserve Bank Act was passed by the National Assembly in 1939, aimed at the creation of a central bank in the Philippines in response to popular demand. However, the bank was not created, the United States President not giving his approval to it.

"Mentioned below are short histories of some of the leading banks on the islands and their business activities.

"The Philippine National Bank.—This bank was established in 1916. The term 'National Bank' does not imply that it is a financial organization akin to a central bank but 51 per cent of its capital is invested in by the local government. It was none the less a bank of issue and the largest and only exchange bank in the Philippines. It held one quarter of the total amount of savings in the Philippines, and had a branch office in New York.

"The Bank of the Philippine Islands.—This bank was established in 1852. It was the successor to the Banco Espanol Filipino. It was the second largest bank in the Philippines, and was another bank of issue till 1942.

Agricultural Bank

"Agricultural and Industrial Bank.—This bank was established in 1939 as a result of the adjustment made of the rebate of coconut oil consumption taxes. It was a purely national bank, capitalized at 150,000,000 pesos including a paid-up capital of 25,000,000 pesos. It was charged with the mission of offering low-interest loans to parties engaged in general industries on the islands. Due, however, to the infant stage of mechanical industries on the islands, the majority of funds was offered to those engaged in the agricultural industry. The bank officials had a plan to bend efforts for the creation of an economic autarchy on the islands.

"General Commercial Banks and Trust Companies.—The Philippine Trust Company was established by American capitalists, but its capital was subsequently shifted to Filipinos. It was at once a trust company and an ordinary commercial bank.

"The China Banking Corporation.—This bank was established by Chinese capitalists. It was engaged in financing Chinese merchants, who monopolized the islands' foreign trade with China.

"The Philippine Bank of Communication.—This bank, as well as the China Banking Corporation, was established by Chinese capitalists. It was subsidiary organ of the Bank of Communications in China. It is related that the Chungking regime built this bank with the object of utilizing the financing resources of Chinese tradesmen abroad.

Organizations That Existed

"The following list shows the banks, their capitals and the nationalities of the investors in the Philippines prior to the War of Greater East Asia:

Bank	Year of Establish't	Capital (In 1,000 pesos)	Nationality of Capitalists
Philippine National Bank	1916	10,000	Filipino
Bank of the Philippine Islands	1852	10,000	"
Agricultural & Industrial Bank	1939	150,000	"
Philippine Trust Co.	1920	1,000	"
China Banking Corp	1920	10,000	Chinese
Philippine Banks of Communication	1939	2,000	"
Peoples Bank & Trust Co.	1926	1,000	American
Bank of Commonwealth	1937	1,000	Filipino
Philippine Bank of Commerce	1938	2,000	"
Banco de Hipotecario de Filipinas	1940	2,500	Filipino & Spanish
Monte de Piedad & Savings Bank	1882	1,000	Spanish
Savings and Mortgage Bank	1940	2,500	"
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	1873	—	British
Hongkong & S'hai Bkg. Corp.	1875	—	"
National City Bank of New York	1930	—	American
Yokohama Specie Bank	1918	—	Japanese
Bank of Taiwan	1928	—	"
Nederlandsch Indische Handelsbank	1937	500	Dutch

SUCCESS OF ECONOMIC CONTROLS IN GERMANY

Businessman Back From Reich Enumerates Reasons For Satisfactory Operation of Controlled Economy Under Fuehrer

Well-directed guidance, skilful application of regulations and the people's cooperation with the national policy are the main factors making for the success of the economic control operations in Germany, said Mineo Masuoka, of the Mitsubishi Shoji Company, at a round table talk on the subject of "War Economy of Germany" sponsored recently by the Keizai Mainichi. A gist of his story, which is based on his personal observations during his stay in Germany on company-business, follows:

"The satisfactory progress being made in the controlled economy of Germany is largely due, I think, to the excellent guidance given by Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler and other Government leaders. The Germans as a race are endowed with constructive faculty of the first order, coming from their inclination to do anything on definite plans, and they are obedient to laws and regulations once they are enforced, although rather argumentative before formulating any rules.

"Needless to say, even if the control machinery is well planned and perfect, if it fails to get the right men for working it, it will not amount to much. In this respect, it appeared to me from my personal observations that the German Government are putting the right man in the right place. Men of ability, whoever they may be, are selected and put to suitable positions in utter disregard of their age, rank, educational or business career.

Rejuvenation Noted

It is said that the Germans have grown young again since Hitler came into power, because any man, if he is capable and diligent, can get any high position he aspires for no matter what his past career may have been, which serves to enliven the general atmosphere. The control organs are invariably headed by men of practical experience, selected in many cases from among businessmen, which reduces any possible friction between the Government and the public to a minimum. Those who are selected and appointed to responsible posts are given sufficient power to handle the work in their charge at their own discretion and consequently their responsibility is extremely heavy. Any serious blunder or failure through negligence on their part not only forfeits their positions and salaries, but often entails criminal punishment. Those in responsible positions are, of course, devoting themselves to their work in full realization of the nature of their tasks and their duties, and the public put entire confidence in them. This accounts for the smooth functioning of the control measures.

"On the other hand, the Government is behaving strictly to the general public with severe legal sanction and punishments against offenders. Men who violate control regulations are dealt with very strictly. Extremely heavy fines are imposed for black-market transactions and in some cases capital punishment.

"The people are ever ready to keep order in society by their own efforts and are fully aware that the final victory in war hinges on satisfactory economic operations at home.

Reasons for Success

"In short, the success in controlled economy in Germany is due mainly to three reasons, namely, capable guidance by the Government, wise application of the control regulations by men of experience in accordance with changes in the situation and faithful obedience to the laws and regulations on the part of the people at large. There is, however, one more powerful reason for the successful exercise of economic control and that is the perfection of statistical data which are available.

"The German authorities took great pains in completing their control machinery, going into the minutest details. It may be called a war of documents. The Foreign Exchange Control Act, for instance, is an extremely bulky affair and it is only Dr. Hjalmar Schacht and the Governor of the Reichsbank who are fully conversant with it, so complicated are the works of economic control in that country.

"There is, however, a tendency at present in favor of adjustment and simplification of the control regulations. It is possible that the Government will transfer the right of control to civilian economic organization the Government itself exercising supervision only over vital points. In such a case, irregularities can hardly be committed by the civilian bodies because they are entrusted with a mission of national importance."

Chiang's Plan Has Two Main Issues

(Continued from Page 6)

the Commander of the Eigth Campaign Area with headquarters at Lanchow who is assisted by the mixed contingent of Hu Tsung-nan. It is to be remembered in this connection that the Mohammedan army wields great influence over the area.

Both the Communists and the Chungking regime are using tactics each to win the Mohammedan army to its side.

Chungking approached the Mohammedans by way of appointing their leaders to important positions, establishing national cultural societies and organizing national relief societies and so on, directed to rouse in them an anti-Japanese spirit. The results, so far achieved, however appear to be next to nothing.

Whilst facing there menacing moves from the Communists, Chungking is busy with another undertaking to make its northwest centralization complete, namely to recover Sinkiang Province. Taking advantage of the Soviet engagement in the European war, the Chungking regime is trying to extend its political influence into that territory. According to one report the Mohammedan leader Ma Hohou, the former Provincial Chief of Tsinghai, was appointed by Chungking as the head of the Sinkiang Province.

It is surmised that the recovery of Sinkiang will ultimately help Chungking to surround the Communist army in Yenan. On the contrary, reports show that Yenan Communists continue to hold their sway.

The northwest program is thus pregnant with an inevitable conflict between the Chungking regime and the Communists, which will not fail to impinge on the internal organization of Chungking, possibly causing a rift in it.

New Section Added

In order to dispose of its rapidly growing business affairs the Osaka Branch of the Marine Affairs' Bureau of Kobe has decided to establish a harbor service section shortly. Katsuzo Tada, an official of the Marine Affairs Board, will be appointed chief of the new section, reports the Sangyo Keizai.

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Nippon Times

Published by the Nippon Times, Limited
TOSHI, GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
1, Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku. Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 358.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 403, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848

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TOKYO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1943

Japan-Bulgarian Convention Of Amity and Cultural Collaboration

The conclusion of the Convention of Amity and Cultural Collaboration between Japan and Bulgaria in Tokyo on the auspicious occasion of the commemoration of the founding of the Japanese Empire, is a matter of hearty congratulations.

This Convention aims, not only at the recognition, but also at the strengthening, of the friendship and mutual trust already existing between our two nations and the advancement of cultural relations, thereby enhancing mutual understanding between our two peoples. Although the Convention contains no more than three articles, the far more valuable and important historical significance which it signifies should not be overlooked. In other words, this new accord signifies nothing other than the re-affirmation of the relations, of friendship and mutual trust already in existence between our two countries.

It is common knowledge that the Japanese nation has long manifested great sympathies towards the Bulgarian government and people who have steadily increased their national strength with a spirit of frugality, fortitude and vigor under the able guidance of their brave and sagacious Sovereign, King Boris, and who have now joined the ranks of nations which are cooperating for the establishment of the New World Order. On her own part, Bulgaria has always manifested an attitude of cooperation towards Japan with full understanding of the position which the Empire of Japan occupies as the leader of Greater East Asia and of the sincere efforts of Japan to cooperate with her allies, Germany, Italy and others, for the creation of the New World Order.

It was in the spirit of these relations that Bulgaria joined the Three Power Alliance on March 1st, 1941, recognized Manchoukuo on May 13th and the National Government under President Wang Ching-wei on July 1st of the same year, and finally, on December 8th, 1941, declared a state of war against the United States and Britain. On each of these occasions Japan expressed her profound respects and appreciation.

The New Convention not only has great significance in the re-recognition of the inseparability of the friendship between the Empire of Japan and the Kingdom of Bulgaria, but it also is a source of congratulations that it aims to promote real understanding between our two peoples by mutually exchanging our respective cultures, thereby ultimately contributing to the greater inter-flow of the cultures of the East and the West.

It is needless to mention that in the present World War the Kingdom of Bulgaria is doing her utmost militarily, economically and otherwise, to contribute to the successful prosecution of the war. At the same time, we cannot help expressing our firm belief in her progress as a valiant nation of Eastern Europe with the enhancement of her national prestige in military, political, economic and other fields as befitting a participating state in the great task of creating the New Order in Europe. We take this occasion to express our hearty good wishes for the continued growth and prosperity of the Kingdom of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people.

The Post-War Problems

During the past few days the commentators of the Anti-Axis nations have been disseminating a tremendous amount of propaganda on the post-war problem. Both in the United States and in Engand a considerable amount of public interest seems to have been created by these discussions.

The usual line of reasoning which the Anti-Axis propagandists are following is that the post-war problem is primarily a problem to be solved by the people of the Western Hemisphere. One of America's ace commentators declares that before a practical solution of the world's problems can be arrived at "it is necessary to understand what you are striving for, otherwise you'll be floundering around aimlessly. Thus we must recognize these fundamental truths about our present world: First, we are in the midst of the biggest world revolution since the fall of ancient Rome. It is a revolution which was created by people who have not. The 'have-nots', the dissatisfied people, looked around for some new economic solution to their problems. . . . We must destroy the causes of unrest, or economic unhappiness if we are to have permanent peace."

The Anti-Axis propagandists all agree that in the new post-war world the conditions which existed prior to the outbreak of the war must not exist, that there must be a fair distribution of the world's natural products. This is precisely what the Axis nations were advocating for years prior to the outbreak of the present war. Had the leaders of the United States and Britain realized two years ago what they are preaching today the peoples of the world might still be at peace. And yet these American and British propagandists who advocate the solution of the world's problems in this equitable manner, invariably conclude their discussions by declaring that the Axis Powers must first be crushed.

This is the height of absurdity. It is like saying that the troubles of the world were caused because half the people belong to the "have" class and the other half belong to the "have not" class, consequently it is necessary to solve this sad state of affairs by bringing about an equal distribution of products, and the only way in which this can be done is by killing off the "have not" people.

Another pet theme of the American statesmen and propagandists is that of racial equality. The British are not so bigoted. They realize that under British rule there can be no racial equality in India, in Africa and wherever else the Union Jack flies and so maintain an embarrassed silence. But the Americans blatantly bring this matter up and declare that in the post-war world there must be racial equality. Even President Roosevelt says so. His propagandists find one of the principal causes of the present war in the German attitude toward the Jews, a matter which is attacked in the most frenzied manner.

As a nation which might almost be said never to have had an internal racial problem we are in a better position perhaps than any other country to judge this matter impartially. Germany is not the first nation to have been plagued by the Jews. Every country in Europe has been tormented by this most unfortunate of all wandering peoples. The story of the cruelties inflicted upon the Jews in England in the Middle Ages is, for instance, one of the most poignant chapters in history. Tomorrow it may be America's turn to be harassed beyond human endurance by this universal scourge.

By assailing the Germans for their anti-Jewish conduct and by proclaiming the doctrine of racial equality as one of the conditions under which the world should exist in the post-war period, the Americans unmask their bigotry and hypocrisy in their crudest form. Can it be that they have forgotten about the ten million Negroes in the United States, or do they not consider Negroes to be human beings?

As long as there are people who subscribe to that line of thinking there can be no peace and happiness.

The only reason we can imagine for the present high-pressure propaganda on the post-war problem is one of internal politics. It is aimed primarily at the American people who know that they have nothing to gain and everything to lose in the present conflict and who, therefore, will refuse to fight a long war. By spreading a lot of talk about post-war problems the leaders of the United States presumably believe they can persuade the American people that peace is not far away and thus get them to bear their ever-increasing burdens without too much grumbling. That seems to be the only logical explanation for this ridiculously untimely discussion of post-war problems.

A Year Ago Today

Feb. 12, 1942

From Our Own Files

The communique issued yesterday by the Imperial Headquarters announcing the entry of Japanese Army Forces into the city of Singapore stated that the Imperial Army units which have been continuing their advance since early morning on February 11, breaking the stubborn resistance of the enemy, at 8 a.m. penetrated into the city of Singapore. They are capturing and trampling down defeated British troops on every hand.

* * *

With their fighting spirit enhanced tremendously on the occasion of Kigensetsu, Empire Day, the Imperial Army units, which are subjecting the fortresses of Singapore Island to a terrific bombardment, captured Bukit Timah, an important enemy position located at the highest point on Singapore Island early this morning after severe fighting, states a communique issued yesterday by the Imperial Headquarters.

* * *

Avalanching Japanese Forces storming through the western gates of the city of Singapore on February 11 have been staging bitter street fighting with defending British troops, reports information from Saigon.

QUEEN'S APPEAL FOR FREEDOM ENDED IN ANNEXATION OF HAWAII

Uncle Sam's Interference With Hawaiian Administration Culminated in Grabbing of Islands

By KENJI HAMADA
(Special to the Nippon Times and Contemporary Japan)

Kenji Hamada is executive editor of the Shashin Kyokai (Japan Photo Library). He is the author of Prince Ito, and the translator of Introduction to Contemporary Japanese Literature, published by the Kokusai Bunka Shinko-kai (Society for International Cultural Relations).

Part I

On a cloudy January afternoon in 1891, the city of Honolulu, which usually throbbed with a warm, gossammer gaiety, put on an air of mournful expectancy. King Kalakaua had returned from San Francisco on board the American cruiser Charleston, not carrying any glad news, but in a coffin. He had gone to the United States to recuperate from an illness, but alas! he succumbed to illness there. The solemn hush of sorrow did not prevent the transaction of royal business in the "blue room" of the Hawaiian palace. The four cabinet ministers, all of American extraction, pressed the deceased monarch's younger sister, Crown Princess Liliuokalani, to ascend the throne by immediately taking the oath in support of the Bayonet Constitution. They placed before her a sheaf of documents purporting to be royal commissions reappointing them to their positions. They demanded that she must sign at once. The newly installed Queen hesitated and her sixth sense warned her to gain time. "Gentlemen," she said in faultless English, "I expect you to send in your resignations before I can act."

The ministers not only construed her abrupt plea as an attempt to take shelter behind technicalities, but also wishfully sensed in her attitude a strong desire to dismiss them. That meant a showdown. "May we remind Your Majesty," said Finance Minister Godfrey Brown, "that we can be removed from office only by a vote of want of confidence passed by the majority of all the elected members of the legislature."

"Then why is it necessary," said the Queen, "for you to ask me to go through the formal procedure of reappointing you gentlemen? Perhaps, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has something to say about this."

Summoned to the "blue room," Chief Justice Judd settled the issue with prompt exactitude. "The Bayonet Constitution," he ruled, "contains no provisions for the continuance in office of the ministry after the king's decease. I am of the opinion, therefore, that the commissions of King Kalakaua's ministers automatically expired upon his death."

That, of course, was the Achilles' heel of the Bayonet Constitution. Frustrated, the ministers walked sullenly out of the "blue room." But when she appointed her own ministers headed by Premier and Foreign Minister Samuel Parker, a part-Hawaiian and her close personal friend, the Lower House threw them out. After a series of stormy debates and balloting, a compromise cabinet was appointed. This willy-nilly matter of affairs bred dissension and deadlock: the situation rapidly deteriorated from bad to worse, approaching an explosion.

Bayonet Constitution

The Bayonet Constitution, so called because it was literally forced upon the Hawaiian Sovereign at the point of a bayonet, represented to the resident Americans during those days "a hard-won victory, a guarantee of their freedom, the sanctity of their property." They took it as their right to shape the political course of the Hawaiian kingdom. If this was democracy at work, it was a democracy of a singularly predatory character. Uncle Sam wanted to grab Hawaii permanently. Therefore, he ignored the moral, political and sovereign rights of this elysium of the Pacific.

The Americans first settled in Hawaii as Protestant missionaries in 1820; then came renegade seamen, traders on their way to China, whalers looking for "hot" rake-offs. Shrewd land-grabbers acquired valuable landed properties, while American pioneers began to lay the foundation of a "little America." The laudable humanitarian work of the pious missionaries began to sink into insignificance under the impact of a capitalist-imperialist greed. Practising rugged individualism on a manorial scale, Uncle Sam's industrialists developed a prosperous sugar industry, and finally established themselves as the principal exporters and importers, monopolizing the trade with America, Canada, Australia and East Asia. Their combined property amounted to $850,000,000 or nine-tenths of the wealth of the entire Hawaiian kingdom. The taxes they paid and the customs revenues on their imports constituted the mainstay of the local administration. Thus Uncle Sam gathered food to satisfy his territorial appetite.

The indigenous sovereigns had not been incompetent. They were for the most part able and shrewed, beginning with Kamehameha the great, founder of the Hawaiian monarchy, who used the white man's weapons to command the white man's respect. And they were advised and aided by the first-generation American Protestant missionaries whose abilities were excellent and whose loyalty never deviated. As long as the Kamehameha Dynasty (five monarchs, 1793-1872) sat on the Hawaiian throne, the reins of power were held incompetent hands. Foreign aggression was warded off not by force of arms, but by an extraordinary display of judgment, diplomacy and statesman-like acumen.

America's advance into Hawaii excited the ambition of other Powers. British Consul Richard Charlton became "convinced of Hawaii's value and importance" and desired that "it should form a British possession" French Consul Patrick Dillon declared that Hawaii was "a kind of plum pudding which France is anxious to relish with a spoon." American Minister to Hawaii Henry A. Pierce urged Washington to secure the cession of Pearl Harbor as it would "bind the Hawaiian Islands to the United States with hooks of steel," adding that such a step would eventually "lead to the cession of the entire archipelago." Knowing these ambitions of the third Powers, the Kamehamehas steered a precarious course, taking advantage of the Powers' mutual jealousies. Countless quarrels with their agents reverberated through the pandanus-scented halls of the royal palace. Their warships anchored time and again in Honolulu harbor, decks cleared for action, huge guns pointed at the royal palace.

Indigenous Base Menaced

In the meantime, the loyal missionary advisers were forced by militant lay Americans to leave politics alone. Then, with the extinction of the Kamehameha Dynasty in 1872 and the election of distinguished nobles to the throne by popular votes (King Lunalilo, 1872-3; King Kalakaua, 1873-90), Britain and France retracted their ambitions in favor of the more powerful America. By this time the indigenous race was slowly dying out. The white man's folly, drunkenness and his diseases began to sap the peculiar virility of the Polynesians. King Kalakaua, clever, ambitious, a great schemer, a perfect politician, attempted to resuscitate the race with artificial remedies, and so he undertook to open hospitals and homesteads and dispatch student missions abroad to receive military training and modern discipline and education. The resident Americans saw in these monarchial projects "a calculated move to revive indigenous hegemony at their expense." The Hawaiian legislature and the American cabinet ministers of the king who between them controlled the kingdom's purse string delivered their "no."

Kalakaua rose to the occasion magnificently, but tragically. He devised new ways of obtaining money. By holding lotteries, or by exerting pressure on the legislature for the founding of a subsidized steamship line to the Orient which would yield enormous profits to the privy purse, he went on with his schemes. The Americans immediately started a movement to dethrone him, but their conspiracy failed. Kalakaua, toward the close of his reign, steadfastly resisted his cabinet's plan to cede Pearl Harbour to the United States, because he knew it would facilitate American annexation of his country. His death while on a health trip to San Francisco hastened the doom of Hawaii.

Queen Liliuokalani, who succeeded the deceased monarch, was a typical Polynesian beauty in her girlhood. Throughout her life, she greeted everbody with a broad, winsome smile. Also she had three passions: music, books and charity. At fifty-two she mounted the throne. She had by then become an "old lady;" yet her royal demeanour, her cultured and scholastic taste, and above all, her winsome smile, made her a dignified ruler. Her sole thought was for her people. She demanded that the government of the country must be formed by the sons of the soil. And she strove hard to complete the work left unfinished by her departed brother; but fate ruled otherwise.

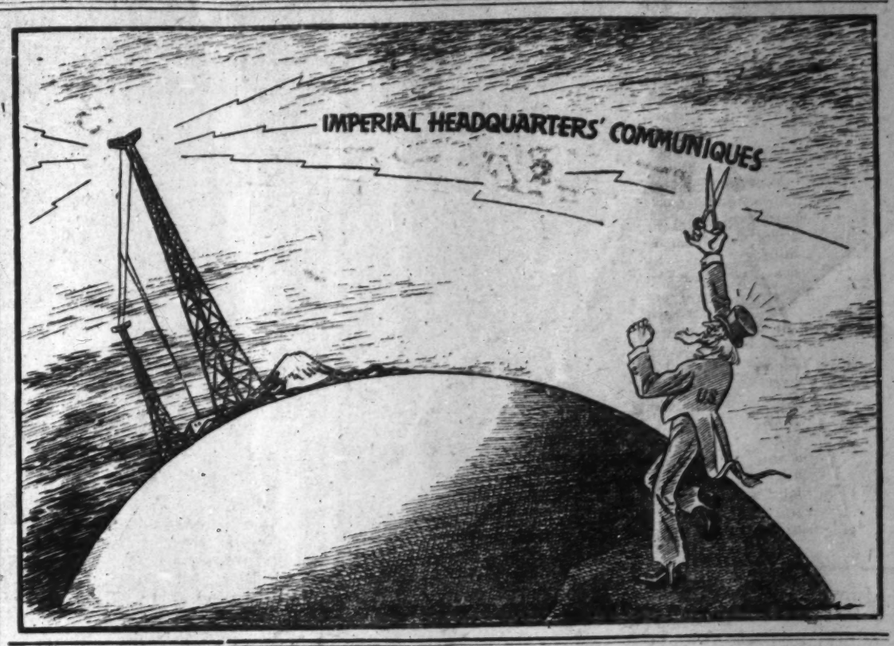
(To Be Concluded)

Fruits of Wisdom

Open your mouth and purse cautiously, and your stock of wealth and reputation shall, at least in repute, be great.—Zimmerman.

* * *

There is no witness so terrible—no accuser so powerful as conscience which dwells within us.—Sophocles.



CHIANG'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN COMPRISES TWO MAIN ISSUES

Program Calls for Revival of Transport Route and Utilization of Natural Resources in the Northwest

By YOSHIO KONDO
(From the Kelkoku)

The so-called "North-west Development" program on which the Chungking regime is feverishly engaged lately calls for our most immediate attention as it is understood to bear highest political and economic importance to the regime.

There are wo points to be discussed with regard to this program, one, the revival of the dilapidated transport route lying through this region, and the other, the harnessing of natural resources which this region is said to contain for munition production which the Chungking regime is desirous of raising to a self-supply basis.

Regarding the route itself, it is a long stretch of 8,000 kilometers, between Alma-Ata and Chungking. The construction of this route was completed immediately following the outbreak of the China affair. After the conclusion of the barter agreement between the Soviet Union and China in June, 1939, the route was capable of carrying from 800 to 1,000 tons a month of arms, ammunition and other war materials from the Soviet Union to China. But, after the outbreak of war between the Soviet Union and Germany the supply from the former to China by this route declined to 60 to 80 tons a month.

Chungking Intention

The present intention of Chungking to revive this route is not to get war supplies from the Soviet Union. Since the Soviet Union is itself getting supplies from Anglo-America, Russia's supply to Chungking is next to impossible. It is therefore the intention of the Chungking regime to improve this dilapidated route and connect it with the route by which the Soviet Union is getting its supplies from Anglo-America. In short, Chungking desires that the war materials that are landed at the Persian Gulf from Anglo-America, should, after being transported through Iran and the Soviet territory, be bifurcated at Alma-Ata so that one part may reach Chungking through its north western route and the other may go to the Soviet Union.

With regard to the feasibility of this plan, it is observed that Chungking is unduly optimistic in the face of the fact that the Soviet Union is experiencing no small amount of difficulty to transport material, landed by Britain and America at the Persian Gulf, into its territory. In this connection, it is well to remember that the Soviet Union is constantly complaining of not getting enough supply along this route. Assuming that the supplies reach Alma-Ata, what about the distance of 8,000 kilometers between that point and Chungking. If trucks are to be employed, they will consume half the oil that they will carry. If coolies and camels are engaged, it will prove too crude and primitive a method to accomplish this large-scale need. If a railway is to be built, between Paochi and Lanchow, as discussed by the plenary session of the Third Kuomintang Conference the project is beyond the means of the Chungking regime which does not possess sufficient construction material.

Only Route Open

But still, this is the only route open for the Chungking regime to try its fortune, since three other alternative routes went to naught due to various causes. Of them, one starting from India and connecting with northern Burma and ending at Yunnan was frustrated when the Japanese occupied Burma completely. The other starting from Sadiya, a railway terminus on the northeast extremity of India, and connecting Chayu of Tibet and Paan of Sikang Province, and terminating at Szechwan Province proved impracticable owing to the engineering difficulties between Sadiya and Paan. The third route, which is an air route, could not transport more than 100 tons a month as has been seen from the figures available for two months between August and October 1942. Thirty-two tons of pig-bristle, 70 tons of silk, 47 tons of tin and 70 tons of tungsten, totaling only 229 tons, were all that could be carried during those two months from Chungking to India. Considering the fact that what was carried from India back to Chungking could not have been more than an equal quantity, this air route had no capacity beyond a small fraction to replace the Burma route which was able to supply 20,000 tons a month.

In support of the northwest route, therefore, Chungking statesmen are making eloquent speeches. Weng Wen-hao, Chungking Minister of Economics said, "The only supply route left to us today is the northwest route. This is the only route through which Chungking can safely get war supplies and other necessities without being molested by enemy submarines and bombers. The development of this route to the fullest extent is for us an urgency of the utmost importance." Sun Fo, President of the Legislative Yuan, speaking on the same subject said, "We must now consider the importation of war supplies from the Persian Gulf through the northwest route. Our route lies through Iran and Soviet's Central Asia, and we can take advantage of railroad transportation to reach Alma-Ata on the Turksib Railway. When the Soviet Union gets tanks, guns, and warplanes from the Anglo-Americans by way of Iran, there is no reason why we cannot get the same sort of help, or else we may be unable to stop the Japanese advance."

Not being able to materialize the route-plan yet to any appreciable extent, the Chungking regime has turned its attention to the launching of an elaborate scheme for developing the natural resources of the northwest sector, with a view to have war materials produced on a self-supply basis. For this purpose, experts were chosen from such organizations as the Central Research Institute, Chinese Geological Institute and Central Museum, followed by the North Investigation Commission and American Experts' Commission, who all carried out studies of the sector. Subsequently, Chungking made public in September, 1942, its Ten-Year Northwest Development Plan, in which connection the budget read that the total investment ranging over a period of ten years would be 100,000,000 yuan, and the amount would be subdivided into 39,000,000 yuan for mining; 15,000,000 yuan for agriculture, 8,000,000 yuan for water transportation; 20,000,000 yuan for the establishment of local commercial concerns; and 18,000,000 yuan for reconstruction work.

Wants More Aid

Not being satisfied with this amount, the Chungking regime is trying to attract assistance from outside. The wish expressed by the Minister of Economics through the foreign correspondents on August 1, 1942 caused groups of American experts to visit the northwestern area in the spring of 1942, indicating the possibility of a flow of American investment on a large scale.

The natural resources of the northwest are classified into two, the mineral and the agricultural.

Among the mineral products, crude oil takes the first place, as it is found flowing out to the surface of the ground in Yuimenshien area. Petroleum has the best chances of being developed in either Kansu, Tsinghai or Ningsia Provinces. The regions of Tihwa and Ili also are claimed to contain rich deposits of oil. Coal which is mined around the west bank of the River Chi in the eastern part of Kansu, though in quality and quantity it does not compare with what is produced in Kalagan, Tongshan or, Hsuchow, is claimed to reach 7,000,000 tons, when added with the amount coming from Shensi. There is an iron vein in the eastern part of Ningsia. Mercury is produced in large quantities from the Wei River in Kansu. Gold, tin, rock-salt and agate are extracted as principal products from mineral ores obtained in the southern part of Kansu and Sinkiang.

As to the agricultural potentialities of the northwest, the report of the Economics Minister Yung stated the arable land area to be 750,000 square kilometers. Although rice is produced in Shensi and Sinkiang, wheat and mixed cereals in Kansu, and cotton in Shensi, the present scale of production of rice and wheat is not able even to meet the local demands.

After this specific survey of the northwest, it is observed that, while the mineral resources are still in the stage of preliminary investigation and dependent upon the necessary completion of a transport system, the agricultural prospects are more hopeful.

Lack of Knowledge

But the success of any scheme of agricultural development largely depends upon the skill and equipment that the farming population inhabiting the area possess. An examination of the five provinces of Shensi, Kansu, Ningsia, Tsinghai and Sinkiang, covering a total area of 3,500,000 square kilometers and containing a population of 20,000,000 is made up of mostly nomads who lack a knowledge of farming. The Chungking regime is therefore contemplating a wholesale emigration of the refugees from the war devastated areas, returned overseas Chinese, and the unemployed to the northwest sector, for the purpose of aiding in the development of mining and transportation. There is also the need for developing artificial irrigation, if additional production should increase to any appreciable extent. There being no reports concerning the actual steps taken in this connection, it can be safely concluded the whole thing is yet a paper-plan, and is but a hope of a distant future.

Under the circumstances it is but natural for the Chungking regime to fall back once again on the Burma route, and hence its plan, since last summer, to recover the Burma route in close cooperation with the British-Indian army.

Political Problem

Before putting into effect the northwest program, Chungking is called upon to clear up the political tangle existing in the northwest sector. This tangle is due to the dual influences caused by the Communist army on one hand, and the Mohammedan army representing the majority of the population on the other. It is the aim of Chungking to drive out both these influences, and establish its own supremacy over the area. With this in view, it has launched on a political move in that sector, under the name of "the Northwest Centralization."

The "Northwest Centralization" drive of the Chungking regime has given rise to a triangular fight for power among the following three elements the Communist army which is fortified in 23 hsiens spreading over Shensi, Kansu and Ningsia and the adjoining areas; the Mohammedan army which claims to possess a strength of 100,000 composed of Ma Huang-Ta's 11th and 81st armies, Ma Ho-Tsing's 5th cavalry regiment in Kansu, and Ma Ho-hou's 82nd army in Tsinghai; and the third element, the Chungking army under Chao Hsiao-liang.

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